

- o Cements the idea that he is also a capitalist and on Mr Birling's side – Highlights the tensions between Eric and Mr Birling
 - [Eric in same situation] – **'He could. He could have kept her on instead of throwing her out.'**
 - [Birling to Gerald] – **'You're just the kind of son-in-law I always wanted'**
- o Hyperbole used as a persuasive device – clearly other options
- o Declarative sentence – confident in his beliefs vs Eric's anaphora/hesitated stuttering
- **'I insist on being one of the family now'**
 - 'insist' appears overly forceful – feeling guilty about the summer so is making up for it by trying too hard?
 - Phrased more like a command but comes across as him making an effort to be part of the family
 - Wants to make sure the marriage goes ahead – genuine love for Sheila or wants the business opportunity
 - o Foreshadows the breakdown of the family and him ironically ending closer to the parents than Sheila and Eric at the end of the play
- **'Well you were right...We've been had.'**
 - o Crediting the discovery to Birling in order to flatter him – trying to rebuild family relations
 - o Inclusive pronoun – talks about the family and himself as a unit
 - Feels like part of the family because he saved them from a scandal

AUDIENCE RESPONSE – Irritation at his insincerity

Conclusion (Purpose of Character)

- Shows that it was common for the upper class to act badly towards the lower-class
 - o Makes the problem seem wide-spread and gets the audience to question their consciences
- Provides a strong contrast to Eric, highlighting tensions between Eric and Mr B
- Acts as a bridge between the two generations

Preview from Notesale.co.uk
Page 2 of 2